

The Prairie Light Review

Volume 25

Number 2 *Once upon a time recently in...a land nearby*

Article 25

Spring 5-1-2004

Sleepwork

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Recommended Citation

Tolman Flannery, Maureen (2004) "Sleepwork," *The Prairie Light Review*: Vol. 25 : No. 2 , Article 25.
Available at: <https://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol25/iss2/25>

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Sleepwork

by Maureen Tolman Flannery

Sleep light and faithful
 in the misted night place of your thought making,
 my dear dream-believing daughter,
 unsquandered repository of the possible.
 Craniumed potency there, in the egg of your resting head,
 uncracked and gestating, bides its enlivening time.
 Crested rivers of robin-breast hair
 flow into seas of air beyond the bed where you lie
 busy with dream-learning that turns you womanward.
 Despair sulks beyond wide-thrust range
 of these innocent, fate-trusting days
 where birds of a destiny soar together
 and kindness calls its kind.
 You, safe inside why-not? the night through
 concoct a balm for world abrasions.

What white-steeded youth
 with half-moon truths in his metaphysic
 will woo you out of grace and into wakefulness?

What dark-curled campesino
 with spiced-hot thoughts in his fire
 will court you with country matters,
 salsa you off the floor and into a counting house?

What tempest-tossed prince
 of wayfaring charm
 will disarm you bravely with promises of lost new worlds?

What emboldened bashful boy
 knowing nothing
 but the lust-crusted logic of his own unbridled love
 will speak golden
 and offer you dark earth to grow homeward into?

Sleep lightly in the hard-turning night,
 my beautiful craver of justice,
 on your unconscious way
 to change and be changed.